

FIELD (MSW) SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DIVERSITY SPECIALIZATION 2019-20

Field (MSW) Coordinator: Prof. Stephanie Begun stephanie.begun@utoronto.ca (interim coordinator)
(Prof. Rupaleem Bhuyan on sabbatical until July 2019)

Core Faculty List: Profs. Stephanie Begun, Rupaleem Bhuyan, Carman Logie, Izumi Sakamoto, Charmaine Williams

Required Course Offerings for Social Justice and Diversity

[SWK 4304H](#) Globalization & Trans-nationalization: Intersections of Policy & Community Practice Locally Globally

[SWK 4306H](#) Theoretical Approaches to Defining Social Injustice and Engaging in Social Change

[SWK 4512H](#) Research Knowledge for Social Justice

[SWK 4606H](#) Diversity, Access and Equity in Social Work Practice

Two half-credit graduate level electives

[SWK 4702Y](#) Social Work Practicum II

MSW Program with Advanced Standing complete the above courses plus, the compulsory course:

[SWK 4510H](#) Research for Evidence-Based Social Work Practice. SWK 4510H must be completed before taking any of the research courses in the specialization. Students take this course in the first terms of the MSW Program.

Related Elective Choices

[SWK4629H](#) Social Work Practice with Aboriginal Peoples

[SWK4643H](#) Special Topics - Narrative Therapy

[SWK4658H](#) Social Work with Immigrants and Refugees

Practicum Examples (varies every year depending on supervisor availability)*

Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services

Agincourt Community Services Association

Bain Avenue Cooperative – Kitchen Project

Bond Child and Family Development

Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture (CCVT)

Carefirst Seniors and Community Services Association

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

Children's Aid Society of Toronto

Family Service Toronto

Flemingdon Health Centre

LOFT

Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

Mount Sinai Hospital

Native Men's Residence

North York General Hospital

Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration

Safehaven

Scarborough Women's Centre

Schizophrenia Society of Ontario

The Stop Community Food Centre

Toronto Catholic District School Board
York University Counseling Services

*These are examples of practicums – offered most years but not every year depending on supervisor availability

Career Prospects:

MSW graduates from the Social Justice & Diversity field of study work in a range of settings including health and mental health, education, social support, child and family services, disability assistance, criminal justice, immigrant settlement, substance use, housing, gerontology, and Aboriginal services. The majority of MSW graduates in this field work in community-based, non-for profit organizations, government or public work settings, community-based health centres, and public education.

Specific job roles and responsibilities of graduates from Social Justice & Diversity include: direct practice (e.g., counseling, case management), community development, advocacy, administration, project management, communication, and research. MSW graduates usually start in front-line, contract positions.

FAQ's:

When do I declare my field of study?

Year 1 of 2-year MSW: Submit your form to the Registrar, normally at the beginning of February
<http://socialwork.utoronto.ca/current-students/forms/>

Advanced Standing MSW: Indicate field of study when applying for admission to the program.

Who do I contact for advice on field of study selection?

Your faculty advisor. Advisors are assigned to students by the Associate Dean, Academic's Office. Notification is by e-mail at the start of September. If you do not know who your advisor is, e-mail Natasha Valentine:
n.valentine@utoronto.ca

Can I take core courses offered in other fields of study to count as my electives?

Students are encouraged to identify courses offered in other fields to supplement their learning in a particular area of practice (i.e., gerontology, mental health, management) to deepen learning in relation to their practicum or future practice goals. Check with the Faculty Registrar sharon.bewell@utoronto.ca to see whether there is space in another field of study course prior to the start of the term the course is offered. Typically, we will know if there is room in a course by the end of July for Fall Session courses and by the end of November for January Session courses.

What social work skills can I expect to gain from this field of study?

Social Justice and Diversity fosters critical thinking and critical practice skills to address social inequality, exclusion and marginalization within Canada's diverse population. Courses in this field of study draw from a range of critical social work knowledge including: structural, feminist, anti-racist, indigenous, and anti-oppressive theories and approaches. Students will explore historic, contemporary, and transnational dimensions of oppression towards fostering social change, equity, and empowerment.

Working from a social justice and anti-oppressive lens, students will develop core skills related to observation, assessment, self-awareness, critical thinking, oral and written communication. Students will also learn skills related to intergroup dialogue, advocacy, community mobilization, policy analysis and policy advocacy; and research proposal writing. Critical reflexivity and praxis are key elements.